



## **Airport Authority Board of Directors**

### **Minutes of November 18, 2020**

**Via Teleconference:** David White, Sean Scanlon, Karen O'Connell, Mark Sklarz, Vin Petrini, John Picard, Jim Yeske, Peter Leonardi, Gerald Weiner, Rich Jacob, Kevin Arnold, Peter Wilson, Anthony Verderame

**Directors Absent:** Serena Neal-Sanjuro, Matt Hoey, Dan Adams

**Others in Attendance:** Jeremy Nielson, Felipe Suriel, Eliot Jameson, Bryan Hoffman, Johnson Chang-Fong, Mark Zaretsky, Alicia Seremet, Evan Warren, David Reger, Gerald Schildt

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Chairman John Picard called the meeting to order at 16:03L.

#### **1. Meeting Minutes**

There was a motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 18th.

#### **2. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Scanlon reported on the following items:

- a. American Airlines will terminate service to New Haven. While Mr. Scanlon found the departure surprising given the airline's previous intentions to restart service after a second stimulus, he understands their decision given the impact of COVID-19 on the aviation industry.
- b. In light of the disappointing news from American, Mr. Scanlon expressed optimism that the arrival of a vaccine, a second stimulus, and increased consumer confidence will all contribute to the possibility for new commercial air service at Tweed in 2021. The airport is searching for other carriers to fill the void in the meantime.
- c. Due to the increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases, the airport paused phase 5 of the Neighborhood Community Benefit Plan after a homeowner tested positive a few weeks ago. The airport now plans to complete 15 households by the end of December and restart with the remaining 20 households in April 2021. The crews should complete the remaining 20 households by the end of July.
- d. The airport conducted its Triennial Full-Scale Exercise at the end of October. Mr. Scanlon thanked the Airport's staff for all their efforts that ensured the exercise's success.



- e. Mr. Scanlon will meet at the committee level for the New Haven Board of Alders on November 18<sup>th</sup>. He will discuss the transfer of a homeowner's property to the airport. This property transfer will allow the airport to bring taxiways into FAA required compliance.
- f. Mayor Elicker held a community forum regarding Tweed's future with local residents on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Around 10-15 residents expressed concerns, many of which the airport is aware of and actively working to remedy. The community especially called for more transparency, which Mr. Scanlon is in favor of and will continue to take steps to achieve.

### **3. Chairman's Report**

While Chairman Picard describes American's departure as unfortunate due to their partnership with Tweed, he expressed confidence that Tweed will overcome this difficult period and become the region's model airport for decades to come.

### **4. Audit and Finance**

Due largely to Cares Act funding, Mr. Arnold reported the airport ended September in the black. If the airport continues to use around \$77,000 worth of Cares Act funding a month, the funding will last another 8 months. Mr. Scanlon and Mr. Arnold clarified that the airport will continue to receive revenue from American until their equipment is removed, rental cars, and general aviation. Mr. Nielson offered to update the airport's budget, which the board agreed would be helpful.

### **5. Report and Action Items**

No action items.

#### **Airport Manager's Report:**

Mr. Nielson updated the board on numerous activities occurring at the airport. These include audits, the submission of the annual report to the state of Connecticut, continued progress on the Master Plan, and the Part 139 FAA certification inspection. Regarding COVID-19, he stated the airport will submit its application for accreditation through Airports Council International and invested in an electrostatic sprayer to ensure the safety of all those at the airport.

### **6. Other Business:**

None.

### **7. Public Comment:**

No public comments.



**8. Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 16:23L by Chairman Picard.

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Respectfully submitted-

**Felipe Suriel - Assistant Airport Manager**